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KGB IN NEW YORK THE UNITED NATIONS SOVIET SPY BASE

BY JOE TRENTO AND DAVE ROMAN

The Soviet Union's international secret police—the KGB—is operating at an unprecedented pace and scale in the United States today. A six-month-long investigation by this magazine reveals that the KGB—the largest, best-trained, and best-paid intelligence service in the world, consisting of approximately 500,000 employees—is now basing all American operations out of the United Nations complex in New York.

More than 200 Russian KGB agents work under U.N. "cover" as employees at all levels of the U.N. Secretariat, which handles all administration and programs for the world body. These agents act in obvious contravention of their U.N. oath not "to accept instructions . . . from any government or other authority."

Furthermore, American citizens, who pay some \$118 million each year to the United Nations, are literally financing 25 percent of the KGB agents' salaries.

Penthouse also learned:

- There is no efficient security check conducted to make certain that U.N. employees are not affiliated with foreign intelligence services or that they do not have other questionable backgrounds.

- Because the most knowledgeable and expert CIA counterintelligence officers were forced out of the agency in 1975, the KGB and other foreign intelligence agencies now have a free rein within the United States.

- A large percentage of the KGB force operating from the United Nations are known officers in Department V—the KGB elite specializing in murder, terrorism, and sabotage.

During its investigation *Penthouse* interviewed former top CIA and FBI counterintel-

ligence officials and several Soviet agents and reviewed U.N. personnel files. It learned that KGB agents are currently concentrating their major efforts on the following vital areas:

- The CIA computer system at Langley;
- The Nevada Nuclear Test Site, where highly accurate MIRV warheads are tested;
- The recruitment of fired CIA officials, embittered over their treatment by CIA director Stansfield Turner;
- The Trident Nuclear Submarine Program.

"The KGB is made up of top professionals, who are dedicated and well rewarded for their efforts," James Jesus Angleton, the former head of CIA counterintelligence, told *Penthouse*. Angleton confirms the U.N. activities by the KGB and says, "Diplomatic access and immunity make the United Nations a spy nest." He told *Penthouse* that the "key" figure in all of the Soviet Union's U.N. activities is Vassili V. Vakhrushev.

At fifty-five the urbane Vakhrushev is at the height of his profession as both a U.N. and a KGB administrator.

Since 1975 he has been acting director of the United Nations Information Center in Moscow. But one set of duties that is not in his U.N. pledge is the one that he conducts for the KGB. According to FBI officials, Vakhrushev is running the KGB operation in the United States.

Angleton has a high regard for Vakhrushev's abilities as an agent and a KGB officer. "He is a top man. He gets the best of everything because he has proven himself to the KGB, and their system of rewards and promotions is much less bureaucratic than our own."

Vakhrushev's post has traditionally been held by a KGB official. But in 1975, when

Vakhrushev was approved as the new "acting director," the appointment was made with the understanding that he would supervise the KGB's U.S. operation from the safety of Moscow. When he needs to come to the United States, his diplomatic immunity allows him to do so as often as necessary.

His hiring at the United Nations was orchestrated with the smoothness that one would expect from an international organization. Two high U.N. officials, W.H. Tarzi of Afghanistan and A.S. Elimov of the Soviet Union, arranged for the contract. Soviet aid to Afghanistan was one lever the KGB pushed to get their man approved.

In addition, the Soviets are allowed to call Vakhrushev "acting director" no matter how long he holds his post. This provision allows the KGB to move him to another post without any U.N. investigation.

As one U.N. spokesman put it, "It is a political thing. We have fifty of these U.N. information offices, and the Soviets enjoy this title business by themselves."

One of Vakhrushev's predecessors in the U.N. job had been Mikhail Mikhailovich Antipov—a Department V officer who had saturated the United Nations with KGB operations during the 1960s.

Vakhrushev's secret employment file, which was examined by *Penthouse*, reveals that not even a cursory investigation into his background was made. He first caught the eye of Soviet intelligence officials during his wartime career in the Red Army. In postwar Russia he was lifted out of obscurity and sent to the International Relations School at Moscow University. The KGB sponsored his education. His on-the-job training was begun in the Foreign Ministry in Moscow in 1948. His knowledge of

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